

# Water Hammer Press



VOLUME 4 ISSUE I

"COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE"

1st Quarter, 2006

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## Happenings

**March 11th**  
Steve Hodson's Retirement Party  
**March 25th**  
CFD Reverse Raffle  
**March 27th**  
American Red Cross "Hall of Fame" Event (CHS)  
**May 29th - June 2nd**  
Hoosier Burn Camp  
**May 31st**  
HBC Ride and Visitor's Day  
**October 7th**  
Carmel Public Safety Day



## Carmel Firefighter Retires



It seems like just yesterday when I applied for a job at the Carmel Fire Department. After getting the job, I soon found out it is not just a job, but that it gets into your blood and the guys that you work with become like brothers. The job becomes a close family type situation. Being a firefighter isn't like any other job, it is much more than that. I think it is a job that grows with you and you get out of it what you put into it.



I know that the past 30 ½ years seems to have gone by so fast. It seems just like yesterday when I joined the fire department in 1975. We had 23 firefighters and 2 fire stations for the entire township. Granted, we did not have as many runs as we do now but we kept busy with both sanding and repainting fire trucks and painting the fire stations. We did a lot back then to keep busy and I have no regrets at all with the time that I have put into the department. *(Continued on page 4)*

## Firefighter Mexico Bound



Freddy Argotte (Team Leader)- Allstate Insurance, Lt. Tyson Warmoth- Lebanon PD, FF Adam Harrington- Carmel Fire Dept, Dep. Brian Niec- Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Christopher Gilbert- Indpls Red Cross

Carmel Firefighter Adam Harrington will be traveling to Mexico in mid April with the Group Study Exchange program of the Rotary Foundation. He will be staying with a number of Rotary host families during his time away and will be observing and learning the

different aspects of various occupations and professions in Mexico. The various occupations that he will observe and learn about do include firefighting and law enforcement which he also hopes to ride along with Mexican fire and police personnel.

The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program of The Rotary Foundation is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women between the ages of 25 and 40 and in the early years of their professional lives. The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits between paired areas in different countries.

During the four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's institutions and ways of life, observe their own vocations as practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas. Adam will represent the Carmel Fire Department very well in this role.

- Firefighter Adam Harrington



## Chief's Moment

As you all know, 2006 will end with my retirement from the Department. I have no desire to play the part of lame duck, so it is my plan to fulfill an ambitious schedule of projects before I leave.

One special project will be the rebuilding of Station 44. Along with Assistant Chief Platt, Captains Mark Callahan, John Moriarty and Brett Overmyer, we have met with Cripe Architects to finalize plans for the new facility. The new station will be approximately 13,000 square feet with an estimated cost of two million dollars. The building will have two drive-thru 80' bays and one 60' bay. The living quarters will be capable of housing 30 firefighters (10 per shift). Construction may begin as soon as late spring. When construction begins, Engine 44 and Ambulance 44 will be placed at a location to be determined. We will keep you posted as additional information becomes available.

I thank you for your participation in the recent performance evaluation training classes. I am aware that much of your personal and day to day operational work at the station was disrupted, however, we made a commitment to be certain each employee participated fully in the training process toward our new program.

*(Continued on page 4)*



Remember FDIC is in Indianapolis  
From April 24th — 29th!

## Year-to-date Statistics

EMS Runs:	217
Fire Runs:	106
Total Runs:	323

## Locating Fire Hydrants Made Easier

You should have noticed blue reflectors in the middle of some of Carmel's streets in 2004 and 2005. The City of Carmel Street Department wrote into the bid specs for repaving that a blue reflector be installed in the centerline of the road at each fire hydrant.

Anytime you see a blue reflector there will be a fire hydrant to the right or left of the reflector.

This program was first noticed while I was on vacation in Myrtle Beach. After much begging with Street Commissioner Dave Klingensmith and meeting with the city engineering department, this program was started in Carmel.

The cost of each reflector is over \$60.00 installed. Because of the cost the city could not do a mass reflector installation, however; installation will occur during repaving and new development.

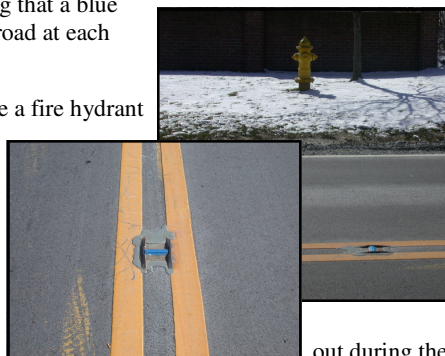
These reflectors are visible in daylight conditions and they really stand out during the night when illuminated by headlights.

These reflectors first appeared in the city on 146<sup>th</sup> Street. This was due in part to the reconstruction of 146<sup>th</sup> Street.

During the 2005 paving projects there were 156 reflectors installed in 56 streets. Here is a list of the streets with reflector installations. They include: Charing Cross Road, Driftwood Drive, 136<sup>th</sup> Street from Rangeline Road to Pro-Med Lane, and Guilford Road from 116<sup>th</sup> street to Carmel Drive.

So the next time you are out during the night, look for blue reflectors.

- Capt. Bill Kehl, Investigation Manager



### Future EMS Training



#### PHI Intensive Learning (PHIL)

The PHIL program features an interactive physiological mannequin in a technologically advanced vehicle.

PHIL is designed for scenario based education in a realistic environment to promote critical decision making and enhance skills.

PHIL applications can include patient case review, psychomotor stations, annual refresher education/skills, and competency verification.

Look for paramedics and EMTs to receive PHIL training in the spring of 2006.

### "Commitment to Excellence" CFD's new motto!

Yes we do have a new motto: "Commitment to Excellence". The motto was submitted by John Rowland, a member of the CFD Merit Board. All seven members of the I-Team reviewed all entries from a list that withheld the name of the person who submitted the entry. The eighty-four mottos submitted were narrowed down to the final three. On the first vote from the final three, "Commitment to Excellence" won unanimously. Congratulations and thanks to John Rowland! You can expect to see our department's new motto begin to show up on our trucks, vehicles, and stationery throughout this year.

- Jan Hope, Accreditation Manager

Members of the CFD (Jim Spelbring, Bruce Knott, Keith Freer) will be teaching a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program to local Carmel and Clay Township residences during the middle part of 2006.



The purpose of CERT training is to provide private citizens with the basic skills and knowledge required to take care of themselves and respond to their communities' needs in the aftermath of a disaster. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. A CERT team is especially critical in the first three days following a disaster when conditions may prevent access by emergency response personnel.

## EMS News

The LifeNet ePCR (electronic patient care report) is going well. This is a huge project between Marion and Hamilton counties. The servers are being built now; one will be housed at Wishard and the other at Riverview. They will be linked together via fiber-optic line that is looped around both counties. I would like to thank Terry Crockett from the city of Carmel IS department for helping with this effort. All laptops are in and we have a demo on Ambulance 41. This is not our program, but it will be similar so please stop by and see it. We are looking at full implementation by October of 2006.

We will be ordering a new Ambulance this year. We are just in the beginning steps. We are researching chassis to try to get a better ride. I like what I am hearing about the Chevy 4500 series

chassis. They are leaf spring instead of air suspensions. City of Lawrence is getting one mid March, we hope to get down there to see it. According to Donley Safety they are big on the East Coast. Going with the E450 Ford series means shorter in length and height on the box. I would rather not lose the room we have. You will hear more later on this topic.

EZ-IO will be put on all ambulances. This is an Adult IO device. Mark Hulett and Steve Fitzsimons from the vendor are currently showing and training crews on this device.

New protocols should be out soon. Fentanyl has taken the place of Morphine, which all trucks should have now. Amiodorone will be taking the

place of lidocaine in cardiac events. MVC cards will be expected (protocol will explain). When the books come in we will send them out.

Those of you that could not make January's Audit and Review don't forget to watch it on the intranet. Some of these changes are covered.

Thanks to all of you for doing a great job. We get in surveys every week stating how professional, compassionate, and caring you all are. Please keep it up. You are the best public relation tool we have.

-Tom Small,  
EMS Director



## Reynolds's Triplet News

Congratulations again to Shawn and Linda Reynolds with the birth of their three children: Elijah, Noah, and Anna!

Their birth has been a joy and a trial as well. Noah and Anna have been healthy and enjoying their new home. However, Elijah has been at Riley Hospital with the challenge of growing and putting on more weight.

Please keep our brother, Shawn, and the whole Reynolds's family in your thoughts and prayers as Shawn and Linda divide their time staying at home with Noah and Anna, and traveling to Riley Hospital to see Elijah.

We will check in again with the Reynolds and hope to have a family picture for the next Newsletter.

## HAZMAT Training Officer Update

This is the hazmat training schedule for the spring of 2006.

- **March** — Technicians will be working on competency training. Technicians and awareness/operators will be reviewing the DOT Emergency Response Guide with the use of scenarios.
- **April** — Technicians will be working on gas monitor training and awareness/operators will be reviewing gas emergencies procedures.
- **May** — Both technicians and awareness/operators will be training with decontamination procedures with the technicians having extra emphasize on mass decontamination.
- **June** — Technicians will perform HAZMAT pre-plans. Awareness/operators will be reviewing Placards and Labels.



- Gary Brandt, HAZMAT Training Officer

## Fire Training Officer Update

As we all know it is very important that Carmel's firefighters continue to train on a regular basis and learn new skills. This ensures competency of all skills.

Below is a list of CFD's fire training scheduled for the near future.

- **March** — RIT training, combined company drills, and interior and exterior fire tactics and operations during live structure burns.
- **April** — Row house lecture, flashover chamber, and car fire simulation.

I appreciate the training suggestions that I have recently received. If anyone has ideas for the training structures, we will try to incorporate them into the current plans.



- Brian Mayo, Fire Training Officer

## New Station #44 News



Present Station #44



New Station #44

What will the new Station #44 look like? Stay tuned for more information about Station #44's new floor plan and exterior design.

The Chief, Assistant Chief, Station #44's three captains, and the architect have been meeting every two weeks refining the details and plans for the new building. Look forward to a picture of Station #44's new look in the next issue of the Newsletter.

## Promotions

### 1st Class Firefighter

*Effective March 18th, 2006*

FF Jamie Price  
FFP Troy Kelsheimer  
FFP Kyle Condra

*Effective April 1st, 2006*

FFP Al Peterson  
FFP Shawn Reynolds

### Senior Fire Inspector:

*Effective February 25th, 2006*

Chris Ellison

### Fire Training Officer:

*Effective December 31st, 2005*

Brian Mayo

### Engineer:

*Effective March 31st, 2005*

Michael Brisco

### New Safety Committee Members:

Lt. Brad Love  
Eng. Brian Smith

**Congratulations everyone!**

## EMS Training Officer Update

During the month of February Musculoskeletal Trauma training was conducted and the Traction Splint and Long Bone Injury state skills were completed. In the month of March all CFD personnel will be updated on the new guidelines of CPR which were released on February 15th. Also in March, all paramedics will have additional PALS training and EMT's will receive training in behavioral emergencies.

I plan to have more hands-on training throughout the year.



- Mark Hulett, EMS Training Officer



## Grade School Fun Revived!

It all started way back in 2005. Mike Brisco, unknowingly, put together a hodge-podge team of would-be greats in a game that has stood the test of time. Last February, White River Christian Church in the heart of Noblesville, hosted their first annual "DODGE BALL" elimination tournament during a teen lock-in. After the kids had been exposed to music, pizza, and just before learning about their Creator through a devotional, they were witness to what will go down in history as the "Beginning of IT all."



At 10pm we, the team, walked into the church. All around are men in black t-shirts to escort us to the ring. {edit, edit, edit} WE WON the whole thing! Tournament Champions...

Now we are in 2006. Last Friday night. Same location, Same time (except no one called Bruce to tell him the time changed), same team (except Jim was working a shift and John....never showed up). We were excited. However, that wore down due to the fact that there was a little delay, and we didn't start until after 11pm. There were 8 student teams and 4 adult teams. Returning were the CFD Champs, an adult group from the church, Noblesville Police

Dept., and newcomers from the Noblesville Fire Dept.

The first adult teams to go at it were NFD and NPD. Obvious tension existed between the



teams. NFD in their all matching black uniforms came out on top. Next, the kids go at it for a while followed by CFD and the church guys. CFD takes the win, 2 out of 3. Finally, about 12:15am it's CFD versus NFD. Friendships are out the window, the brotherhood is non-existent. Five rubber balls separate us. The pelting starts, balls fly everywhere, Witsken is jumping around like a squirrel in a weed-eater. Hoover hits em' hard. Sombke is lurking in the shadows, while Brisco gets hit.

Haymaker puts a guy in V-fib. while Haymaker Jr. feeds dad more ammunition. Knott actually stays in a couple minutes! Score, 0-1 them. Game two was RAW! NFD wanted us bad. Knott lasted about 37 seconds. Brisco pelts the other team, but soon there were five of us on the sideline. Haymaker and Witsken are on their own. Then it's just the Silver Flame all by himself holding down the fort. Three against one. I think Sombke got back in, and someone else, soon most of us are in again and there was the upset. Score 1-1. Tension is thick. Game three is huge. Players are in and out constantly. Hoover is crazy, Haymaker Jr. is getting his feel for things. CFD = Victory.

After that we played the winning teen-age team. They didn't have their game on anymore. Still the reigning champs, CFD Dodgeball team. At least this is how I remember the drama.

**-Bruce Knott**

The CFD team: Capt. Mike Brisco, Brad Sombke, Bruce Knott, Steve Witsken, Tony Hoover, Sam Haymaker and sons.



(Continued from page 1)

We hope many of you will benefit from the class when we begin our first trial evaluation.

There will be other projects this year in which you may be asked to participate. Each and every one will be another step toward improving this great organization and improving our service to the citizens of Carmel. Our pride in this Department is evident, and we will continue to progress to meet the challenge of providing the maximum safety and care for our community.



**- Fire Chief  
Doug Callahan**

### 2005

#### Patient Care Survey Results

The Carmel Fire Department sent out a survey in every patient's bill. The national average for survey response is about 8% where ours was 23.93%!

From January — December 2005

Surveys Sent 2332  
Surveys Received 558  
Surveys Response 23.93 %

Overall Care		
Excellent	482	86.83%
Very Good	53	9.50%
Good	6	1.08%
Fair	4	0.36%
Poor	1	0.18%
N/A	12	7.71%

96.96% of all surveys returned with an Excellent, Very Good, or Good rating!  
**Great Job!!!**

I thank you for your dedication, professionalism, and compassion towards the citizens of Carmel!

**- Tom Small, EMS Director**

### 2006

#### CFD Pension Board

Re-elected for another 4 years term was FFP Gary Fisher. Also, elected this year by the retired members of CFD, was retired LT. Fred Glaser.

#### Board Members include:

- Chief D. Callahan
- Capt. S. Reeves
- Capt. T. Collins
- Ret. Lt. Fred Glaser
- Lt. Bruce Knott
- FF Gary Fisher

(Continued from page 1)

It has been a tremendous ride for me.

We have come a long way from when I was hired. We only had 2 fire trucks, 2 ambulances, a 55 ft. tela squirt, a jeep grass truck, and no paramedics. Now look what we have to work with today. I think it will only get better in the future.

Contrary to popular belief, when I started as a firefighter we didn't have horse drawn equipment but if you want to think that, it's ok. I'll still laugh with you about it. However, we did ride on the back tail board of the fire truck when I first started. Yes, I did test the strength of one of the bay doors at old station #2 and come to find out you can drive through them and don't have to be in the car. I have great memories and have had a very good life on the department.

Now, I know that I did show some of you how to fix baked beans the right way. Some of you did not appreciate the lesson but not every

one comes out with a name associated with it. Again, there were a lot of good times that I had with all of you and I will miss the department and my co-workers. Please when you see me walking up, don't pour out the coffee. The older guys will know what that means.

To close, I hope that you all maintain the brotherhood and don't let it die. I have made a lot of friends and I have lost some friends due to death as well. For those who had a pleasure in working with me, I would do it over again. Thank you so much for the opportunity to work, play, and cry with so many of you.

Finally, I just want to thank all of you for letting me work with you and I had a good time doing it. Thanks again.

**Steve Hodson**

#### You are invited to Steve's retirement party!

March 11th, 2006  
3:00pm-7:00pm  
Hunters Glen Clubhouse  
East Carmel Drive

